

KHRC Medication and Penalty Regulation Changes for Thoroughbred racing

Please be advised that the following changes to 810 KAR 1:018 and 810 KAR 1:028 are anticipated to go into effect on September 4, 2012:

1. Phenylbutazone threshold: 2 mcg/ml serum

- The administration constraints have not changed. A maximum dose of 2 mg/lb may be administered intravenously no later than 24 hours prior to post time for the race in which the horse is entered.
- Note: The threshold and withdrawal guidance were developed based on RMTC elimination data in which the dose of PBZ was calculated based on the horse's weight. The KHRC recognizes that scales are not available, and that a weight determination is, at best, an estimate. The use of a uniform dose of 2 grams for all horses will result in risk of an overage if administered to horses weighing substantially less than 1,000 lbs. Veterinarians are encouraged to adjust dosage to the estimated weight of the animal.
- For those wishing to exercise additional caution, the administration of PBZ at 30 hours (24 hours + ½ life [6 hours]), prior to the horse's post time will eliminate any risk associated with an egregiously miscalculated dose.
- For horses having been administered repeated oral daily doses of PBZ, it is recommended to discontinue PBZ at 48 hours and use one of the other approved NSAIDs (flunixin or ketoprofen) at 24 hours.
- Please note: There is a specified route of administration (intravenous) for PBZ at the 24 hour deadline. This is consistent with the previous regulation and does not represent a change. Some trainers have indicated that they have been administering PBZ orally at 24 hours. This was, and is, a violation of the regulation. With the lowering of the PBZ threshold, oral administration establishes substantial risk of a post-race concentration > 2 mcg/ml.

2. The use of adjunct bleeder medications will be prohibited within 24 hours of a race.

3. The following thresholds and withdrawal guidelines have been adopted:

- Firocoxib 20 ng/ml serum (Veterinarians are advised to review the withdrawal guidelines provided for firocoxib)
- Methocarbamol 1 ng/ml serum
- Glycopyrrolate 1 ng/ml urine OR 3.5 pcg/ml serum

4. The following medications have been assigned penalty classifications:

Class A: Cannabinoids (synthetic), Cobratoxin, Conotoxin, Dermorphin, Inositol Trispyrophosphate (ITPP), Levamisole*/Tetramisole, Methylene dioxypyrovalene (MDVP or 'Bath Salts')

Class C: Diclofenac, Firoxocib

* Levamisole has been assigned Penalty classification A in light of its documented stimulatory effect on the central nervous system. The KHRC recognizes that Levamisole has legitimate therapeutic use and does not wish to prevent horses from receiving appropriate veterinary care. Rather, the KHRC intends that Levamisole not be administered in proximity to a race. Further, the KHRC does not provide withdrawal guidance for substances associated with a Class A penalty, but does wish to inform veterinarians and horsemen that Levamisole is currently not being detected in post-race samples. To the extent that Levamisole is currently being administered, that administration would not result in a rule violation.

Individuals having questions or concerns may contact Dr. Mary Scollay at: (859) 246-2040 or mary.scollay@ky.gov